

Staff Stuff



Winthrop University commemorated the 24th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The ceremony featured a gathering at the flag pole; renditions of the National Anthem and Taps; a salute from members of Winthrop's Army ROTC; and a silent stair climb at the Coliseum, which pays tribute to the individuals who climbed essentially 110 stories of the World Trade Center towers.



Staff = Event Rock Stars

Each academic year holds recurring events such as Orientation, Move-In, Convocation, career fairs, games, Homecoming & Reunion, Commencement, and more. It should come as no surprise that staff are often behind the scenes (sometimes in front!) making those events happen!



Above, **Precious Thompson**, residence life coordinator, helped students check in at the Center for Career Development & Internships' part-time career fair on Aug. 28.

On the left, **Hunter Huggins '22**, recruitment coordinator, and **Melissa McCarthy**, dean of the School of Graduate, Continuing, and Online Education, promoted their school at the Student Involvement Fair on Sept. 4 on the Campus Green.



WINTHROP UNIVERSITY CELEBRATED STUDENT-MADE ROCK HILL, A PROGRAM TO SUPPORT AND ENGAGE STUDENT-CREATORS, AT A RIBBON-CUTTING ON SEPT. 4. PEOPLE CAN VISIT THE SHOP DOWNTOWN AT THE HICKORY POST TO BUY STUDENT-CREATED MERCHANDISE.



Staff Out and About



Above and Left: Dacus Library staff members **Cody Walters** and **Martha Smith** frequently speak to classes, faculty, and staff about the library's resources.

Right: Several staff members from the West Center, Athletics, Student Affairs, and Communications and Marketing ventured off campus to participate in WFAE's trivia competition.



Staff Out and About



Above: The Center for Career Development and Internships hosted a Pop-Up Career Closet and headshots on Sept. 16. Staff **Kenya Ratliff** and **Jill Lauber** assisted students at the event with the headshots and sizing professional attire.



Left: Residence Life's **Taylor Evans '21** and Dacus Library's **Amanda Caldwell** hosted a social media presentation, an offering from the Staff Professional Development Committee. The duo formerly presented it at the June conference.

Success Fest = A Success!



On Sept. 18 the **Office for Student Success** held what staff hope will become an annual event: **Success Fest!** Students crowded on the Dinkins lawn to throw (inflatable) axes; play ring toss, cornhole, and other games; and dunk **Honors College Dean Nick Grossoehme** and **Provost Sebastian van Delden**, among many other activities. Students stopped by tables to learn more about the services OSS offers, such as Study Abroad and the Academic Success Center.

Above: President Edward Serna stopped by to check out the event. He posed for a photo with **Leigh Poole**, assistant provost for student success.

Right: Amanda Caldwell, outreach and engagement librarian, assisted at one of the service tables at the event.



Giving Back to the Community



Left: Online Learning staff visited the Rock Hill Educational Community Garden, which is sponsored by the university, to learn more about the institution's sustainability practices...and to get their hands a little dirty!

Community Service Opportunities

Each fall, Winthrop University partners with **United Way of York County** for a two-week campaign. This year's campaign will run Oct. 20-31. The non-profit has a bold goal to help York County families become financially stable by 2030, named 'Power to Thrive.'

Staff and faculty can make donations (cash, check, or payroll deduction), if they would like, via a paper form that will be delivered to department offices or through an online pledge form.

Winthrop employees will once again host a meal for the **Bethel Men's Shelter**. They LOVE Winthrop's meals and servers, and we hope to carry on that tradition!

When: Monday, October 13

Where: Bethel Men's Shelter

How: You can sign up and bring items/send items prior to Monday or bring them that evening by 5:30 p.m.

Sign up here.

Welcome to Winthrop!



Above: New faculty/staff members at the Sept. 24 Welcome to Winthrop session.

New Hires

***Melissa Bates**, director of recreational services and West Center operations, Student Affairs

***Tammy Eason**, career coach, Center for Career Development & Internships

***Rhett Eckhardt**, user support technician, IT

***Aidan Fiol**, assistant cross-country/track and field coach, Athletics

***Teresa Folz**, operations support specialist, Small Business Development Center

***Kyle Gramit**, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics

***Kees Grondstra**, head strength and conditioning coach, Athletics

***Eugene Johnson**, systems administrator, IT

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(Continued) New Hires:

- * **Steven Joyner**, assistant women's basketball coach - player development, Athletics
- * **John Kirk**, director of campus programming, Student Affairs
- * **Brandon Partyka '21**, student and young alumni program coordinator, Alumni Association
- * **Ahmad Sabha**, project manager for Facilities Management, Finance and Business Affairs
- * **Michelle Sweatman**, collegiate and rural recruitment program director, CERRA
- * **Peyton Williams**, development coordinator, Athletics

HAVE AN AWESOME COWORKER? DO YOU KNOW A STAFF MEMBER WHO WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND? NOMINATE THEM FOR STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH!

Congratulations...

...to **Lisa Cowart**, vice president for human resources! The United Way of York County awarded her its Harvey Hawkins Volunteer of the Year Award, recognizing her as "an engaged supporter...whose leadership has been invaluable during her more than six years serving [United Way]."

Questions About Recycling?

Q: I have/have found a full recycling roll cart. What do I do?

A: Submit a work request to Facilities Management or contact the Office of Sustainability to request that carts be emptied.

Q: I don't have a can for office recycling. What should I do?

A: You can request deskside bins from the Office of Sustainability, which you should then empty into centralized stations or roll carts.

Q: I'm cleaning/moving offices.

A: Submit a work request or contact the Office of Sustainability to request roll carts for recycling paper, books, metal cans, and plastic bottles, jugs, and jars.



Awesome Candy/Trash Candy

Tell us your favorite and
least favorite candy!
The winning sweet will
be at Staff Conference





WALKTOBER

October 2nd- October 30th

Faculty, Staff & Students!!!

Scheduled/Guided walks outside around Winthrop Area

Every Tuesday and Thursday @ 11:15AM

Mileage increases each week

Week 1 – 1 Mile ~~ Week 2 – 1.5 Miles ~~ Week 3– 2 Miles

Week 4– 2.5 miles ~~ Week 5 – 3 miles



PULLING BACK THE CURTAIN ON OUR 2025-26 **STUDENT SUCCESS PARTNERS** SERIES

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER SERIES OF DATA-SHARING
SESSIONS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS
AT WINTHROP!

SAVE THE DATES

Hosted by the Department of Institutional Effectiveness

9/24/25 - 10-11:15am (DiGs 114)

Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow: Graduating Senior Survey (with 2025 data update)

10/28/25 - 2-3:15pm (DiGs 114)

Something Wicked This Way Comes: Using AI to analyze data

11/11/25 - 2-3:15pm (DiGs 114)

Who Was Enroll'd 'Mongst Wonders: Student Enrollment
(Collaborative session with Dr. Joseph Miller)

1/28/26 - 10-11:15am (DiGs 114)

To Stay or Not to Stay, That is the Question: Retention Dashboard debut

2/25/26 - 10-11:15am (DiGs 114)

We Know What We Are, But Know Not What We May Be: Career Outcomes
(Collaborative session with Becky Ross)

3/25/26 - 10-11:15am (DiGs 114)

Life's Uncertain Voyage: TBD